

Message Text

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ORIGIN SY-07

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DRAFTED BY A/SY/FO/VFST. MARS:LH

APPROVED BY A/SY/KWKNAUF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090497

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, APER

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ASSIGNMENT OF PERMANENT SEABEE

AMBASSADOR HILL FROM KNAUF

1. AMBASSADOR WILL RECALL CONVERSATIONS WITH KNAUF REGARDING ADVISABILITY OF ASSIGNING PERMANENT SEABEE TO EMBASSY STAFF IN LIGHT PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS ENVISAGED AND CONCENTRATED EFFORTS CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS BY SY TEAM TO SUBSTANTIALLY UP-GRADE POSTURE OF POST. IT WAS KNAUF'S BEST JUDGEMENT AT TIME THAT PERHAPS MORE EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF SEABEE COULD BE REALIZED BY HIS ASSIGNMENT ELSEWHERE IN ARA AREA.

2. UPON FURTHER CONSIDERATION THIS QUESTION, HOWEVER, KNAUF NOW CONVINCED PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT OF SEABEE WOULD BE IN BEST INTERESTS OF POST'S SECURITY PROGRAM. THIS JUDGEMENT PREDICATED ON FOLLOWING FACTORS: A) EXTENT OF SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY AND PROGRAMMED, TO INCLUDE INSTALLATION OF EXTENSIVE LOCKING DEVICES, PHYSICAL DETERRENTS, ALARM SYSTEMS ETC. REQUIRING REGULAR MAINTENANCE, POSSIBLE MODIFICATION AND REPAIR FULLY SUPPORT REQUIREMENT FOR FULL-TIME SEABEE; B) OFFICER SELECTED TO ASSUME DUTIES AS SUPERVISORY RSO, GEORGE BECKETT, IN ADDITION TO BEING SECURITY GENERALIST, IS TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED TECHNICAL SECURITY OFFICER. PHYSICAL/ELECTRONIC SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS

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LIKELY TO BE GENERATED AND DEVELOPED BY BECKETT WILL REQUIRE INSTALLATION BY COMPETENT U.S. ASSISTANT; C) BECKETT HAS WORKED EXTENSIVELY WITH SEABEES BOTH AS RSO AND TECHNICAL OFFICER AND HAS DEMONSTRATED ABILITY TO VERY EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE THEIR UNIQUE TALENTS.

3. UNLESS AMBASSADOR OBJECTS, THEREFORE, A/SY WILL PROCEED TO ASSIGN UT-1 (UTILITY SPECIALIST) L. WILLIAMS TO B.A. WITH ETA ON OR ABOUT JUNE 3. WILLIAMS IS A 30 YEAR OLD EXPERIENCED SEABEE NOW COMPLETING AN INTENSIVE LOCK TRAINING COURSE. HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE - HIS ONLY DEPENDENT.

4. PLEASE ADVISE.
RUSH

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